

## Message Text

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44

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11

FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12

SPC-03 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 FPC-01 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 L-03 NSC-10 PA-04 PRS-01 SS-20 USIA-15

ACDA-19 IO-14 INT-08 SCEM-02 SCI-06 SAJ-01 DRC-01

/231 W

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R 070920Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8639

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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DEPT PASS EXIMBANK

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, JA, UR, US

SUBJ: US-JAPAN CONSULTATIONS ON YAKUTSK PROJECT

1. TOKYO GAS SOURCE INFORMED EMBASSY DEC 7 THAT  
TALKS BETWEEN JAPANESE TEAM AND EL PASO GAS REPRESENTATIVES  
IN HOUSTON BEGINNING DEC 3 APPARENTLY WENT QUITE WELL.  
SOURCE PROVIDED FOLLOWING BACKGROUND ON AGREEMENT REPORTEDLY  
REACHED BETWEEN MURAKAMI, EXECUTIVE V.P. OF TOKYO GAS, AND  
CARAMAROS, V.P. OF EL PASO GAS AT HOUSTON MEETINGS:  
A) AT PRESENT STAGE OF NEGOTIATIONS, STUDIES AND TALKS  
WILL BE CONCENTRATED ON MATTERS RELATED TO EXPLORATION AND  
DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS ACCORDING TO FOLLOWING GUIDELINES:  
1) IN PRINCIPLE, JAPAN AND U.S. WILL WORK OUT ESTIMATES  
OR PROJECTIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM AND COMPARE PROJECTED LISTS OF  
NECESSARY EQUIPMENT.

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2) U.S. AND JAPANESE TEAMS WILL MEET IN HONOLULU ON

JAN 7 TO COMPARE RESULTS OF ON-THE-SPOT GEOLOGICAL SURVEY CONDUCTED BY TEAMS FROM EACH COUNTRY IN YAKUTSK AREA. (EIGHT-MAN TECHNICAL TEAM SCHEDULED TO LEAVE JAPAN DEC 11).

B) TOKYO GAS CHAIRMAN ANZAI AND EL PASO CHAIRMAN BOYD WILL MEET IN PARIS IN EARLY FEBRUARY (AT INTERNATIONAL LNG MEETING) TO DISCUSS QUOTE BASIC AND FUNDAMENTAL MATTERS UNQUOTE.

C) BOYD-ANZAI MEETING WILL BE FOLLOWED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE BY MEETING BETWEEN REPRESENTATIVES OF U.S. AND JAPAN EX-IMBANKS.

D) BASED ON RESULTS OF ABOVE MEETINGS, U.S. AND JAPANESE SIDE WILL MAKE EFFORTS TO OFFER CREDITS TO SOVIETS AND TO CONCLUDE CONTRACTS TO SUPPLY EQUIPMENT IN EARLY MARCH.

2. WITH RESPECT TO QUESTIONS OF PRICE, TOKYO GAS SOURCE REPORTED THAT TWO SIDES HAD AGREED THAT PRICES ESTABLISHED IN CONNECTION WITH MURMANSK (NORTH STAR) GAS PROJECT WOULD BE USED AS A REFERENCE POINT.

3. COMMENT: ON BASIS OF ABOVE, IT WOULD APPEAR THAT TWO SIDES MADE SUBSTANTIAL HEADWAY IN RESOLVING DIFFERENCES WHICH HAVE DELAYED PROGRESS TOWARD CONCLUDING EXPLORATION PROJECT WITH SOVIETS. SHOESMITH

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## Message Attributes

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